



Player Development Model

U8 Program



Player Development Model U8 Program



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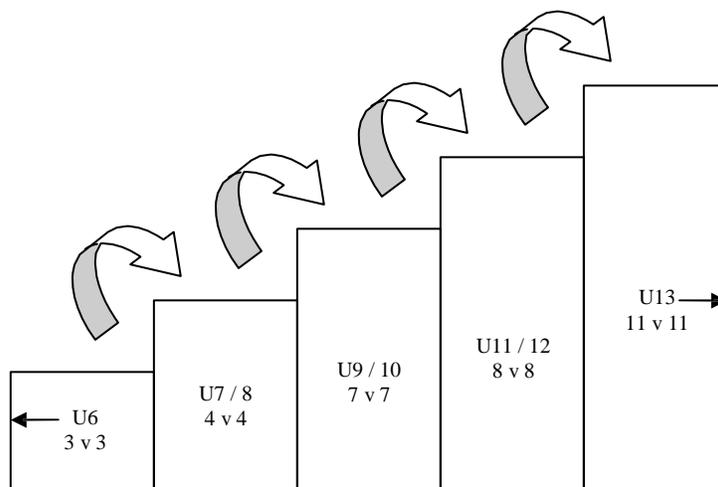


Introduction

“Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes.”
Oscar Wilde

The CSS Player Development Model presented here has been designed to provide coaches with a structured guideline for the development of the U8 player within the game of soccer. The goal of this program is to act as a resource for coaches to provide a consistent delivery of basic knowledge and skill development to our young players.

The activities provided herein are designed with BCSA and CSA coaching certification guidelines in mind.



BCSA Stairway of Development

The overall objective of any mini-soccer program should be to foster and encourage sportsmanship, education, skill development, and respect for teammates, opponents and referees in a fun, relaxed and supportive and player centered environment. Sport should be a fun and positive experience for everyone.

Your overall goal as a mini soccer coach is to create this environment and monitor the development and enjoyment of each player under your charge. You want to keep your young charges in the game. This program will help you to accomplish this.

Please become familiar with the following pages and be sure to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have in regards to the information presented here or for any soccer related issue in general.



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Benefits of Small - Sided Soccer

Numerous benefits of small sided soccer have been documented by a number of authorities. A few of the most significant benefits have been provided here for you. While many of these benefits seem like common sense you must consider the fact that many countries still have 6 and 7 year old players playing 11 v 11 on a full field. Keeping the game simple is one of the best ways we can encourage our youth players to develop the essential skills needed to enjoy the game for their life time.

These benefits are listed in no particular order:

- Y More touches of the ball by every player on the field
- Y Fewer players on a smaller field means the game is easier to understand (simple decisions) for both the coach and the player.
- Y Basic tactical awareness can therefore be more easily observed by the coach and communicated to the players.
- Y Players gain a lot of practical experience by encountering the same tactical situations repeatedly over the course of the game (in its most basic form these tactical situations represent 1v0 and 1v1 encounters – two areas where Canadian players are considered weak at an international level).
- Y Players participate in both attacking and defending during the game. As they gain this experience, players get a better feel for the roles they like best.
- Y Players are allowed to express themselves more freely due to their greater involvement in the game. This can lead to improved self-confidence in all aspects of a player's life.
- Y Players are actively involved in the game making it more fun; players develop best when they enjoy themselves.
- Y Greater enjoyment leads to increased participation which results in more consumers of the game beyond this age group.
- Y The progressive, simple to complex, approach to developing the game with young players supports the educational research regarding the way in which children learn best.



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Characteristics of Development

These characteristics outline some of the physical, emotional and psychological needs of players aged 5 to 8 years. These characteristics should be taken into consideration when planning your practice and interacting with the children.

The belief and confidence these young athletes feel towards their abilities in the game of soccer will rely largely on your ability as a coach to determine what is and is not appropriate for players at their age and ability. A positive and successful experience this year will leave the children wanting to experience that environment again and again.

Characteristics	Recommendations
Lack of gross motor coordination skills.	Simplify activities to include larger, less refined movements. Incorporate simple co-ordination activities into the session – hops, twists, turns, jumps etc...
Strong visual and kinesthetic learners with a short attention span.	Sessions should include lots of movement and activity. Allow children a great deal of hands-on practice with the skills that serve as building blocks for more complex skills. Use visual aids often (i.e. demo the activity) and keep explanations brief (10 seconds) and well organized.
In-efficient cooling system.	Quick and frequent water breaks – can you make this fun!
Very sensitive to criticism / sense of inferiority.	If players feel like they can't do something they will often give up and remove themselves from that activity. Avoid using words phrases such as "you can't do that", "don't do that", "that was wrong"...instead try "that was great...now can you show me a different way?", "did that do what you wanted it too...? No...that's ok here's a trick that might work."
Enjoyment with success and being praised for it. Need for individual attention.	Adjust activities to ensure players are achieving a lot of success. Ensure you praise each child personally and often (John...high five, Billy...thumbs up...Matt...that was fantastic!)
Influence of parents, teachers, coaches.	Be a role model to the children and encourage parent participation often.



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Coaching Methodology

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”
Aristotle

Coaching soccer well is a difficult thing to do especially with young children. Generally the most successful coaches of young players are those who do not try to show them everything they know but, instead, allow players to explore the game for themselves and simply scaffolds and guides that learning process. Knowledge of the game is not essential to the successful development of youth players. If you can provide a safe and nurturing environment that supports failure (the only process for learning something new) and encourages creativity and critical thinking you will have the best environment for successful players to flourish.

Below are some key points that should guide you when planning and coaching any session with young players:

- Y Nothing a child does at this age is ever wrong...it is all part of the learning process. A fear of failure is often the most significant factor in a child's lack of development. Players should be encouraged to experiment through failure, and to learn by doing.
- Y The basic skills of the game are essential, but enjoying playing the game is even more essential – all sessions should be “fun with a purpose”.
- Y Guided learning (“Show me how...”) rather than Directed Learning (“Do it this way...”) will engage players in the process and encourage them to take responsibility for their own development outside of the practice environment.
- Y You are looking to develop an independent spirit in each player...too much direction makes young players dependant on the coach for learning and discourages them from problem solving on their own.
- Y Players feed off of positive energy – reward good behaviour or skill execution, make that player feel special for doing something well and all the others will work for that reward as well. Avoid punishing negative behaviour or skill execution.
- Y Successful players will gladly show other how to do something – encourage peer coaching often.
- Y Decrease the time spent in transition between activities, drills and games, all players should be active as often as possible. Keep practices short, clear, well planned and focused on one theme.
- Y Find a way to keep the parents involved, but set some basic guidelines.
- Y Lead by Example – calm, thoughtful coaches tend to have calm, thoughtful players



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Y Be **ENERGETIC**, **ENTHUSIASTIC** and **ENCOURAGING**...it's contagious!



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Law 3 The Number of Players: If the goal is 2.438 x 1.524 Meters / 8 foot wide by 5 foot high the match is played by two teams, each consisting of four (4) players, one of which is a goalkeeper. Players will take equal turns to play in all field positions including the goalkeeper position that must be rotated at half time. It is not necessary that all players play in the goalkeeper position during a single game. If the goal is smaller than 2.438 x 1.524 Meters / 8 foot wide by 5 foot high, the match is played by two teams each consisting of not more than three (3) players. There is no goalkeeper.

Substitutions: At any stoppage, substitutions are unlimited and must be done with the officials' permission.

Playing time: All players SHALL play equal playing time.

Law 4 The Players Equipment: Conform to FIFA. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams. The goalkeeper should wear a colour that distinguishes him/her from both teams. Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn under the socks. Jewelry is not permitted.

Law 5 The Referee: A Class 5 referee or nominated person may be used. The referee's role is to keep players safe and ensure that the game is played under the "fair play" code. A Class 5 or higher official can send a team official from the field if they fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner.

Law 6 The Assistant Referees: None required, the referee or nominated person decides as to which team the throw in is awarded to.

Law 7 The Duration of the Match: The match shall be divided into two (2) fifteen (15) minute half's. There shall be a five (5) minute break between half's.

Law 8 The Start and Restart of Play: Conform to FIFA, with the exception of the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. Dropped balls are not part of Small Sided Games Program at this age group and an indirect free kick will be awarded to the team who had possession when the play was stopped.

Law 9 The Ball In and Out of Play: Conform to FIFA.

Law 10 The Method of Scoring: Conform to FIFA.

Law 11 Offside: None.



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- Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct: Conform to FIFA with the exception that all fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee or nominated person must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards shown for misconduct. An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the center spot on the halfway line if a goalkeeper punts or drop-kicks the ball in the air from his/her goal area into the opponents goal area. No cards shown for misconduct. If a player intentionally strikes, deliberately kicks or spits at an opponent, this player must be substituted and will not be permitted to participate further during the game. The coach should inform the player as to why and correct these actions.
- Law 13 Free Kicks: Conform to FIFA with the exceptions that all kicks are indirect and all opponents are at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play.
- Law 14 The Penalty Kick: None.
- Law 15 The Throw-In: Conform to FIFA.
- Law 16 The Goal Kick: Conform to FIFA except that: it shall be taken from anywhere within the goal area. Opponents must remain at least five (5) meters away from the ball until it is in play. Unlike FIFA a goal cannot be scored directly from a goal kick.
- Law 17 The Corner Kick: Conform to FIFA with the exception that opponents remain at least five (5) meters from the ball until it is in play. Unlike FIFA a goal cannot be scored directly from a corner kick.



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Fair Play Code for Coaches

Integrity, fairness and respect – these are the principles of fair play. With them the spirit of competition thrives, fuelled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results. A fair play coach believes and teaches that sport is an ethical pursuit, one which builds character and shapes attitudes.

Please read and agree to the following statements. Provide a signed copy to your age group coordinator and to each player you work with. Keep the original for yourself.

1. I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices remembering that young athletes have other interests and obligations.
2. I will teach the athletes I work with to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
3. I will ensure that all athletes get equal instruction, support and playing time.
4. I will not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly.
5. I will remember that children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
6. I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athletes' age and abilities.
7. I will remember that children need a coach they can respect.
8. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
9. I will make a personal commitment to obtain proper certifications, to be informed about the principles of growth and development of children and to continue to upgrade my coaching.
10. I will respect the authority of the club and participate in programmed activities.

Coaches Signature

Date

Fair Play – Please!

Fair Play:
For the good of the game!



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Fair Play Code for Athletes

Please have each player understand the following statements. Collect a signed copy from each player you work with. Players should keep the original.

1. I will participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coaches want me to.
2. I will play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
3. I will control my temper – poor behaviour can spoil the activity for everybody.
4. I will treat everyone the way I would like to be treated. I will not bully or be unfair to any player.
5. I will work just as hard for myself and my team. My performance and that of my team will benefit because of my efforts.
6. I will remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve my skills, make friends, feel good and do my best.
7. I will be a good sport. I will cheer all good plays whether my teams' or the opponents'.
8. I will co-operate with my coach, teammates and opponents, because without them I don't have a game.

Athletes Signature

Date

Fair Play – Please!

Fair Play:
For the good of the game!



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Fair Play Code for Parents

Please have each parent / guardian read and agree to the following statements. Collect a signed copy from each parent / guardian of the players you work with. Parents should keep the original.

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that my child plays organized sports for their enjoyment, not mine.
3. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
4. I will teach my child that an honest effort is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or event.
5. I will turn defeat into victory by my child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship.
6. I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
7. I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
8. I will remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud good plays by both my child's team and their opponents.
9. I will not question the officials' judgment in public and never their honesty.
10. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
11. I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteer coaches who give their time and resources to provide sport activities for my child.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

Fair Play – Please!

Fair Play:
For the good of the game!



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Season Plan

We have provided a basic season plan here. Practice plans covering 15 weeks of instruction are included with this. It is expected that the season will run for 20 weeks. You may want to program these weeks with “games only” practices or mix and match some successful activities from previous practices and incorporate them during this time.

Week 0

Team meeting - provide expectations regarding attendance, player dress code, schedule of practices/games, behaviour at practices and games for both parent and child etc...

Week 1 to 3

Dribbling / Shielding – 3 plans have been provided for you

Week 4

Flex week – review a previous session, play “games only” or progress to the next theme

Week 5 to 7

Passing and Receiving – 3 plans have been provided for you

Week 8

Flex week - review a previous session, play “games only” or progress to the next theme

Week 9 to 11

Attacking – 3 plans have been provided for you

Week 12

Flex week - review a previous session, play “games only” or progress to the next theme

WINTER BREAK

Week 13

Flex week - review a previous session, play “games only” or progress to the next theme

Week 14 to 16

Defending – 3 plans have been provided for you

Week 17

Flex Week - review a previous session, play “games only”

Week 18 to 20

Finishing – 3 plans have been provided for you

Week 21

Team Wrap-up party!



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Practice Plan

Fifteen practices have been planned for you; they are focused on developing key techniques for players in this age group. Each planned practice will serve well on its own but should be considered as part of the overall season plan (each session builds on the previous one). Your challenge as the coach will be to personalize each practice to the suit the needs of the players (i.e. appropriate to current ability level and relevant). Each plan follows a standard structure. This structure is consistent with the recommended guidelines from the British Columbia Soccer Association. Each phase of the practice is described below with a recommended time allotment during a 1 hour session.

After each practice you should take a few minutes to reflect on the session you just conducted. Ask yourself what has worked or not worked, and then decide what you could do to improve that session the next time. Jot some notes down on the back of the practice plan and file it away. While seemingly tedious now, these thoughts will pay great dividends when planning and conducting future sessions.

Phase	Description
Warm-up (5 to 10 minutes)	General movement, coordination and dribbling activities intended to elevate the core body temperature of the player before engaging in “explosive” activities. Proper warm-ups will help players avoid long term injuries and build good habits for the future.
Technique Practice (5 to 10 minutes)	Players practice a specific technique in an unopposed activity. This allows for a lot of successful repetitions. For the purposes of practices with the U6 age group these activities have been blended with the warm-up.
Game Related Skill Activity (15 to 20 minutes)	Players practice a specific technique against opposition or while under pressure. Activities should be built up to game realism slowly, ensure players are having sufficient success before progressing to more complex activities.
Small Sided Game (20 minutes)	Players can now practice their skills in a game situation. SSG’s at the U6 age group would include 1v1, 2v2 or 3v3.
Cool Down (2 minutes)	Players transition their bodies from a high activity level to a low activity level using low intensity gross coordination body movements. Proper cool downs help to instill good habits for the future and can prevent long term injury.
Home Work	Players are assigned basic technique/skill work to perform on their own time. This is an essential part of encouraging players to take ownership of their own skill development and will make you job as a coach easier. A 15 week plan for homework assignments is provided for you



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Homework Assignments

Homework assignments are a great way to engage players in taking responsibility of their own development. Some homework assignments have been provided for you. These have been planned with the season plan in mind and are intended to enhance the players learning from that specific week. Each task should not require more than 5 minutes a day.

- Week 1 How many times can you juggle the ball (allowed 1 bounce between touches)?
- Week 2 Dribble the ball in figure 8's using various surfaces. Time yourself.
- Week 3 Keep control of the ball and see how many turns you can do in 30s.
- Week 4 With a friend or parent, practice beating a defender 1v1.
- Week 5 How many times can you juggle the ball (allowed 1 bounce between touches)?
- Week 6 Practice keeping the ball away from someone in a small space.
- Week 7 Experiment shooting the ball low at various targets using various techniques.
- Week 8 Dribble the ball in figure 8's using various surfaces. Time yourself.
- Week 9 Practice beating a defender with the ball to have a shot at a target
- Week 10 How many times can you juggle the ball (allowed 1 bounce between touches)?
- Week 11 Practice passing / receiving the ball while you are moving using various techniques.
- Week 12 Practice any of the previous activities that they would like to practice.

Parents need to be actively involved in their child's completion of the task. Parents and players should sign a record of completion as confirmation of their homework. Track this over the course of the season, awards could be given for the most minutes of practice.

Example – Record of Completion

I _____ (player name) confirm that I have practiced the task of:

I have practiced this task for _____ minutes since our last session.

Player

Parent / Guardian



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Coaching & Practice Tips

Some basic tips and trick that may help you over the course of the season.

- Y Each practice plan can be run in an outdoor or indoor environment. Cones can be used to mark out areas and goals when outside. Natural markings on the gym floor and benches can be used distinguish areas and goals when inside.
- Y Plan you sessions with transition between activities in mind. To minimize the time spent moving from one activity to another set up your entire area before the players arrive.
- Y Feel free to reorganize your activity once it has already begun. Change it to get what you want.
- Y Have an activity for the players to do as they arrive at practice (1v1's, juggling tasks etc...). Most players will either stand around doing nothing, or get a ball a kick it hard (safety hazard).
- Y Kick and run soccer does not develop essential skills for life long success in the game, close control, dribbling, accurate passing and shooting and ball possession does – encourage your parent group to reinforce this from the sidelines
- Y By encountering the same situation many times (repetition) players learn to problem solve on their own. This will help develop more creative, independent and responsible players.
- Y Ensure players get enough time to deal with training tasks. This will allow them to find individual solutions to problems posed in the game (be patient).
- Y When explaining training tasks keep it short and simple (KISS) and allow all players to hear the explanation and see the demonstration.
- Y When correcting a mistake ensure that you are correcting an obvious mistake that is often repeated. Show corrections to the whole group only if several players are making the same mistake.
- Y Use this method when correcting:

STOP	Players stop completely and are attentive
DEMO	Players see the correct movement / skill
REHEARSE	Players practice what they have just seen
GO LIVE!	Players get back into the game.
- Y Always think of safety first. Shin pads and proper footwear must be worn at all times. Gym floors are slippery, benches can tip over, certain cones can be a hazard and balls can trip players. Use common sense when setting up your area and you will avoid a lot of accidents.



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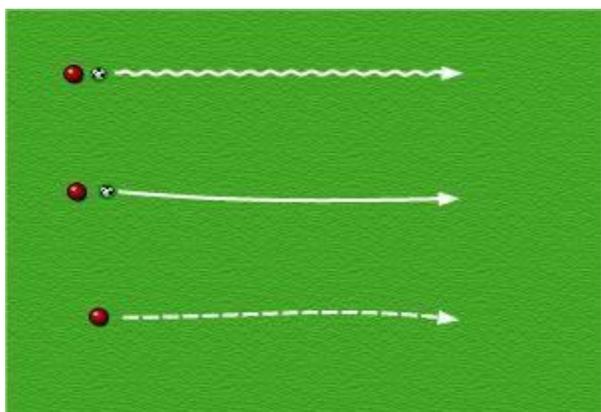


Appendix

The following pages contain planned practices for 15 weeks of the season. These practices are meant as guidelines, you should look to improve each plan to suit the specific needs of the players you work with. Each session builds on the previous one and should be studied and understood before being coached.

After each session reflect on the practice. How did the players like the activities, what went well, what should be improved for next time, which player had difficulties etc... Reflection will help you improve your planning and delivery as a coach.

The diagram below describes the various types of arrows that are displayed in the practice plans and what they represent.



Squiggly Line	Path of a player dribbling a ball
Solid Line	Path of a ball traveling on own (i.e. a shot or pass)
Dashed Line	Path of a player with out the ball (i.e. a run into space)

Please feel free to contact your age group coordinator or director of player and coach development should you have any questions regarding this program or the plans contained within.

Good luck with your season!



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Dribbling the Ball – Session 1

Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to change pace and direction with the ball

Key Points:

- 1 Keep ball close
- 2 Head up
- 3 Change pace & direction

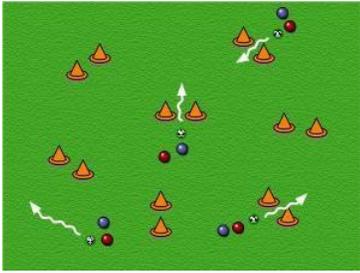
Mixed Bag (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move around with ball at feet • Use both feet to experiment various turns and changes of direction with the ball • Execute various motor coordination skills • Progress – players to dribble through gates. • Pass ball through gates and receive on other side • Pass along two cones and receive on other side 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to experiment with variety • Short sharp runs

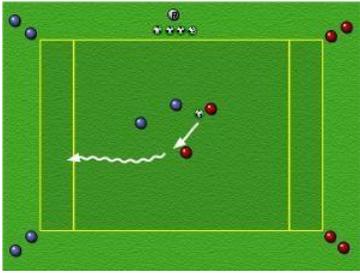
1 v 1 through gates (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players to compete 1v1 by dribbling through gates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points and variety in execution • Vary time constraints and have players track their score. • Vary area size to increase difficulty

End Zone Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split in to two balanced teams • Players compete 1v1, 2v2, 3v3 or 4v4. • Players must dribble into opponents' end zone to score. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new team out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points if done) • Let them play. • Players can score by dribbling into end zone and stopping ball

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan

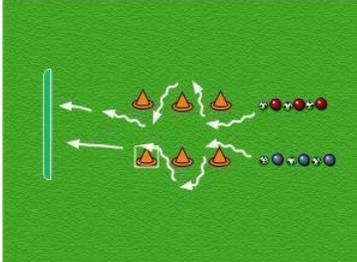


Session Theme: Dribbling the Ball – Session 2

Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to change pace and direction with the ball

- Key Points:**
- 1 Keep ball close using various surfaces of both feet
 - 2 Head up
 - 3 Change pace & direction

General Warm-up and Relay Race (20 minutes) Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week using various surfaces of the foot to change direction. Technique activity: Move into a relay race where players dribble through cones and shoot on target. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage players to experiment with variety Vary cones and distance to make relay more difficult. Keep score

1 v 1 Dribble and Shoot (20 minutes) Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two teams start on either side of net, one team with ball, one without. Players compete against each other. Attacker must dribble around cone and shoot before defender can run around opposite cone and win the ball. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points and variety in execution Vary time constraints and have players track their score. Vary area size to increase difficulty

End Zone Game (20 minutes) Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split in to two balanced teams Players compete 1v1, 2v2, 3v3 or 4v4. Players must dribble into opponents' end zone to score. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new team out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points if done) Let them play. Players can score by dribbling into end zone and stopping ball

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes) Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Dribbling the Ball – Session 3

Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to change pace and direction with the ball

Key Points:

- 1 Keep ball close using various surfaces of both feet
- 2 Head up
- 3 Change pace & direction

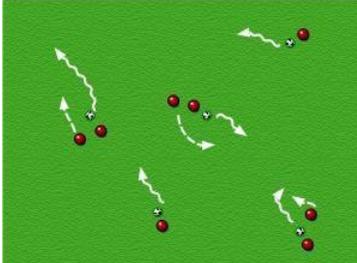
General Warm-up and Musical Gates (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week using various surfaces of the foot to change direction. • Technique activity: on coaches command players must dribble and stop their ball between a gate. • Remove one gate after each attempt. • Play continues like musical chairs but players are not eliminated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to experiment with variety • Vary cones and distance to make relay more difficult. • Ensure one less gate than # of players

Shark Attack (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players in area with ball dribble around freely. • On coaches command 1, 2 or 3 sharks enter area to “eat” players balls (i.e. kick them out of the area). • Players with the ball must avoid the sharks and keep possession of their ball • Last player remaining wins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points and variety in execution • Vary area size and # of sharks to increase difficulty

End Zone Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split in to two balanced teams • Players compete 1v1, 2v2, 3v3 or 4v4. • Players must dribble into opponents’ end zone to score. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new team out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points if done) • Let them play. • Players can score by dribbling into end zone and stopping ball

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan

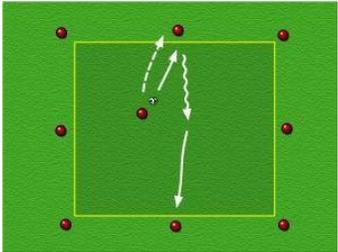


Session Theme: Passing the Ball – Session 1

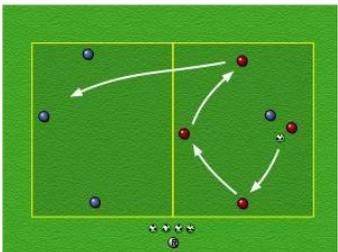
Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to pass the ball to a team mate

- Key Points:**
- 1 Be comfortable
 - 2 Hit ball firmly with inside of foot
 - 3 Follow through

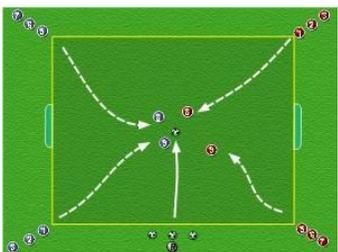
General Warm-up and Pass and Move (20 minutes) Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. Players to pair up, 1 ball between two, and pass and move freely in the area. Technique activity: Pass and move, player dribbles to middle of area, passes to player on outside and changes places with them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage players to move into open space to receive the ball For technique activity have 1, 2, 3 or 4 balls moving at the same time

Soccer Tennis – 2 teams (20 minutes) Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two teams, each in their own half of the field. Team A must complete a set # of passes (2, 3, 4, 5...) and then pass over the line and into the opposing area to score. After the ball enters opposing area, Team A can send a defender into the area to try and win the ball back (4 v 1) Play is similar when team B has possession of the ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points Keep score. Vary area size and # of defenders or passes to increase difficulty

Numbers Game (20 minutes) Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) Call more than 1 number to encourage team play. Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes) Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Passing the Ball – Session 2

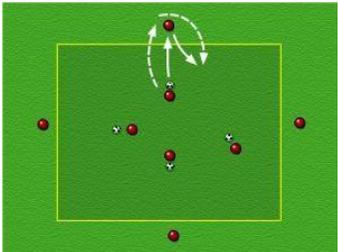
Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to pass the ball to a team mate

Key Points:

- 1 Be comfortable
- 2 Hit ball firmly with inside of foot
- 3 Follow through

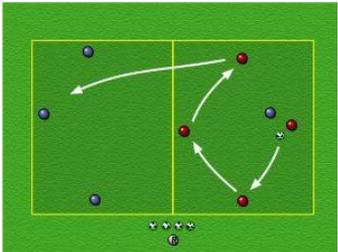
General Warm-up and 1000 Touches (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players to pair up, 1 ball between two, and pass and move freely in the area. • Technique activity: 1000 Touches, half the players are in the area with a ball and can dribble freely. • Players with the ball must pass to a player on the outside who “holds” the ball • Player from the middle makes a run around player on the outside and receives the ball back when entering the middle again. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to move into open space to receive the ball • For technique activity vary the activities of the players in the middle (i.e. pass and run around, give and go, switch with player on the outside with a pass between the legs or any other activity focused on the pass)

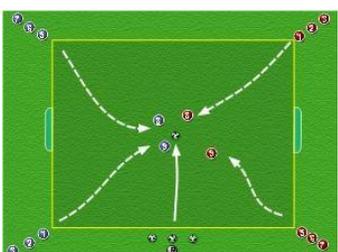
Soccer Tennis – 2 teams (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two teams, each in their own half of the field. • Team A must complete a set # of passes (2, 3, 4, 5...) and then pass over the line and into the opposing area to score. • After the ball enters opposing area, Team A can send a defender into the area to try and win the ball back (4 v 1) • Play is similar when team B has possession of the ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points • Keep score. • Vary area size, # of defenders or # of passes to increase difficulty

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. • The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents’ goal. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Call more than 1 number to encourage team play. • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 • Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan

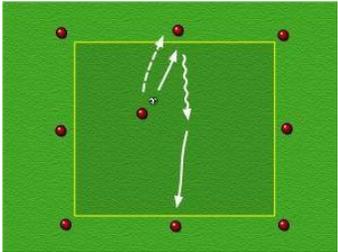


Session Theme: Passing the Ball – Session 3

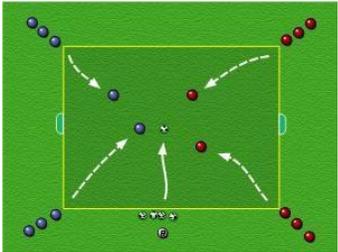
Session Objective: PWBAT use both feet to pass the ball to a team mate

- Key Points:**
- 1 Be comfortable
 - 2 Hit ball firmly with inside of foot
 - 3 Follow through

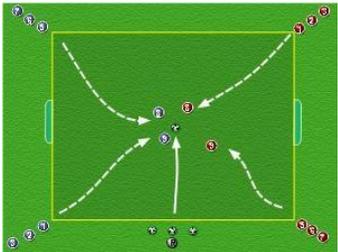
General Warm-up and Pass and Move (20 minutes) Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. Players to pair up, 1 ball between two, and pass and move freely in the area. After a pass is made that player must run around a cone on the outside of the area and back in to receive Technique activity: Pass and Move, player dribbles to middle of area, passes to player on outside and changes places with them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage players to move into open space to receive the ball For technique activity have 1, 2, 3 or 4 balls moving at the same time

Tiny Two's (20 minutes) Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>10yd x 12yd area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set-up is similar to the #'s game 2 v 2 played in a small area (10 x 12 yds) with small goals (1 yd wide) Player must pass and move in a tight area to beat opponents and score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points Keep score. Vary area size to vary difficulty Encourage tight control and quality passes Give bonus points for a pass that splits two defenders. Play the next two players in as soon as the ball is out of play

Numbers Game (20 minutes) Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) Call more than 1 number to encourage team play. Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes) Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



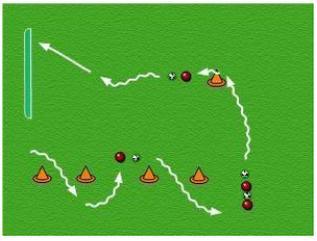
Session Theme: Attacking – Session 1

Session Objective: PWBAT decide when to dribble or pass to create a shooting opportunity

- Key Points:**
- 1 Attack space with speed when no pressure
 - 2 Pass when under pressure
 - 3 Be creative in 1v1

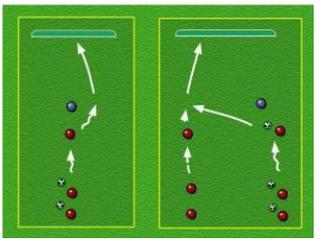
General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over Technique activity: 1 v 0, players dribble around cone to net unopposed and shoot at goal Players collect ball and dribble back through goals to end of line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage players to dribble at pace with tight control

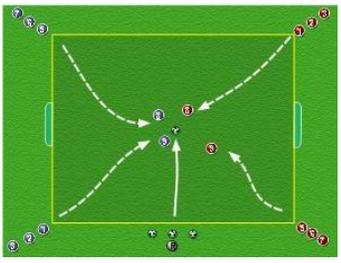
2 v 1 (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players play 1v1 to net. The attacker then turns to be a defender for the next attacker. Play progresses to 2v1 Attacker dribbles and shoots if they have space or passes if under pressure Supporting player stays open to receive ball Players rotate – attacker, defender, supporter, get ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points Encourage attacker to judge when to shoot, pass or dribble Encourage attacker to attack with speed Encourage attackers to shoot early (i.e. when the ball sees the net)

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. Emphasis on when to pass vs when to dribble Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Attacking – Session 2

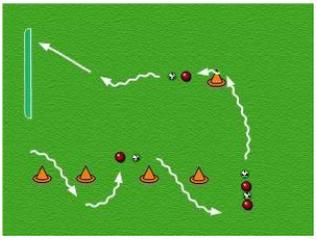
Session Objective: PWBAT decide when to dribble or pass to create a shooting opportunity

Key Points:

- 1 Attack space with speed when no pressure
- 2 Pass when under pressure
- 3 Be creative in 1v1

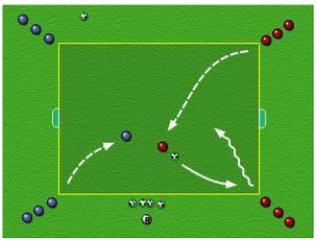
General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over • Technique activity: 1 v 0, players dribble around cone to net unopposed and shoot at goal • Players collect ball and dribble back through goals to end of line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to dribble at pace with tight control

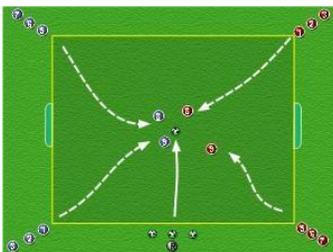
Make Up Your Mind (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 player from each team comes out to get the ball (1v1) • The player with the ball can choose to attack 1v1 or turn and pass back to a team mate. The team mate will enter the game to create a 2v1 situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points • Encourage attacker to judge when to shoot, pass or dribble • Encourage attacker to attack with speed • Encourage quick decision making

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. • The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 • Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. • Emphasis on when to pass vs when to dribble • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Attacking – Session 3

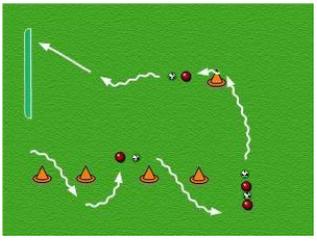
Session Objective: PWBAT decide when to dribble or pass to create a shooting opportunity

Key Points:

- 1 Attack space with speed when no pressure
- 2 Pass when under pressure
- 3 Be creative in 1v1

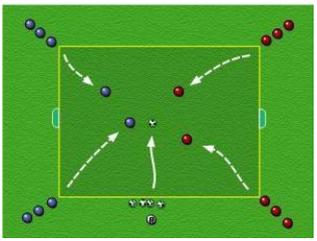
General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over • Technique activity: 1 v 0, players dribble around cone to net unopposed and shoot at goal • Players collect ball and dribble back through goals to end of line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to dribble at pace with tight control

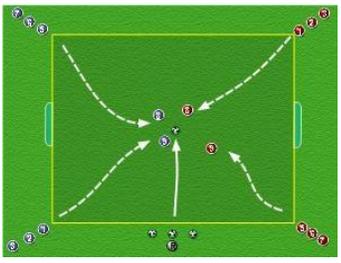
Tiny Two's (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>10yd x 12yd area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up is similar to the #'s game • 2 v 2 played in a small area (10 x 12 yds) with small goals (1 yd wide) • Players must pass and move in a tight area to beat opponents and score 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points • Keep score. • Vary area size to vary difficulty • Encourage tight control, quick passes and movement • Give bonus points for a pass that splits two defenders. • Play the next two players in as soon as the ball is out of play

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. • The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 • Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. • Emphasis on when to pass vs when to dribble • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model U8 Practice Plan

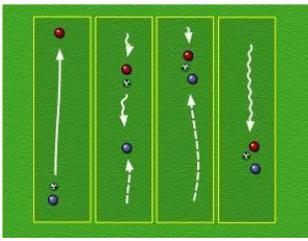


Session Theme: Defending – Session 1

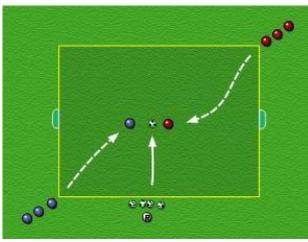
Session Objective: PWBAT close down and delay an opponent

- Key Points:**
- 1 Delay forward movement from opponent
 - 2 Approach on an angle
 - 3 Be patient

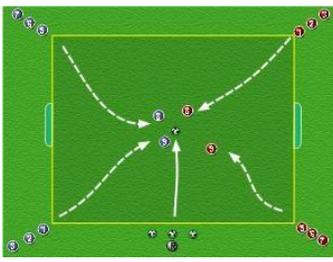
General Warm-up and 1 v 1 (20 minutes) Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over ... Technique activity: 1 v 1 Player passes ball across to opponent and then closes down the space to delay opponent while they attempt to attack end line, defender should not try to win ball. Players switch roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage defenders to get low body position and move with quick feet

Wonderful One's (20 minutes) Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>10yd x 12yd area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set-up is similar to the #'s game 1 v 1 played in a small area (10 x 12 yds) with small goals (1 yd wide) Players must prevent opponent from scoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points Keep score Vary area size to vary difficulty Encourage decisive tackling Play the next players in as soon as the ball is out of play

Numbers Game (20 minutes) Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes) Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Defending – Session 2

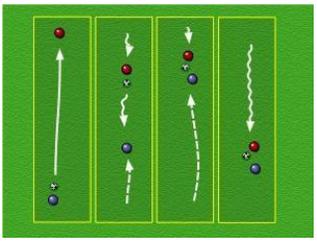
Session Objective: PWBAT close down and delay an opponent

Key Points:

- 1 Delay forward movement from opponent
- 2 Approach on an angle
- 3 Be patient

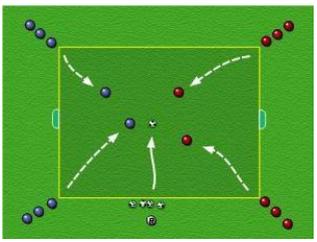
General Warm-up and 1 v 1 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over ... • Technique activity: 1 v 1 • Player passes ball across to opponent and then closes down the space to delay opponent while they attempt to attack end line, defender should not try to win ball. • Players switch roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage defenders to get low body position and move with quick feet

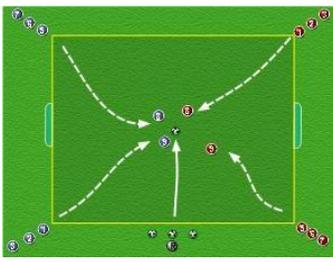
Tiny Two's (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>10yd x 12yd area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set-up is similar to the #'s game • 2 v 2 played in a small area (10 x 12 yds) with small goals (1 yd wide) • Players must prevent opponent from scoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points • Keep score • Vary area size to vary difficulty • Encourage decisive tackling • Play the next two players in as soon as the ball is out of play

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. • The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 • Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model U8 Practice Plan

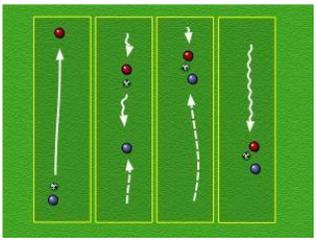


Session Theme: Defending – Session 3

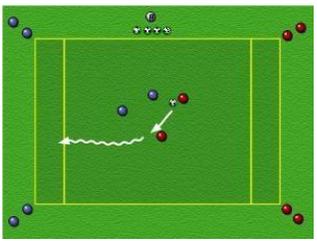
Session Objective: PWBAT close down and delay an opponent

- Key Points:**
- 1 Delay forward movement from opponent
 - 2 Approach on an angle
 - 3 Be patient

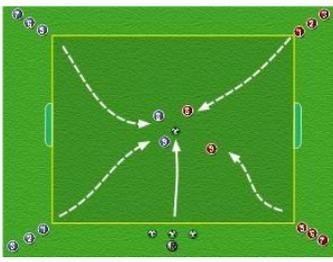
General Warm-up and 1 v 1 (20 minutes) Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. In pairs, players pass then run around cone to receive ball back. Technique activity: 1 v 1 Player passes ball across to opponent and then closes down the space to delay opponent while they attempt to attack end line, defender should not try to win ball. Players switch roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce key points Encourage defenders to get low body position and move with quick feet

End Zone Game (20 minutes) Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set-up is similar to the #'s game Players play 1 v 1, 2 v 2, 3 v 3 and score by dribbling into opponents' end zone. Players must close down opponent to prevent them from entering end zone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the key points Keep score Vary area size to vary difficulty Play the next players in as soon as the ball is out of play

Numbers Game (20 minutes) Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes) Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Finishing – Session 1

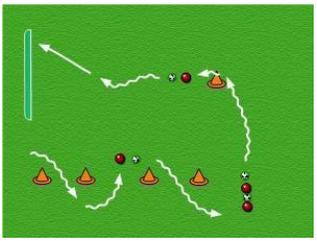
Session Objective: PWBAT shoot on target with confidence

Key Points:

- 1 Be comfortable, don't force the shot
- 2 Vary shooting surface
- 3 Accuracy over power

General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over ... • Technique activity: 1 v 0, players dribble around cone to net unopposed and shoot at goal • Players collect ball and dribble back through goals to end of line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to dribble at pace with tight control

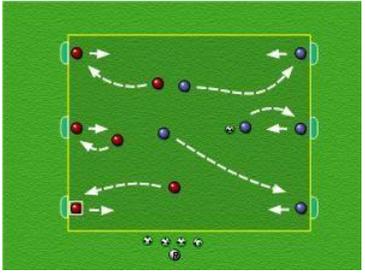
1 v 1 Dribble and Shoot (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two teams start on either side of net, one team with ball, one without. • Players compete against each other. • Attacker must dribble around cone and shoot before defender can run around opposite cone and win the ball. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points and variety in execution • Vary time constraints and have players track their score. • Vary area size to increase difficulty

Three Goal Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams of 4 to 6 players. 3 players will act as GK and 3 will play out. • On coaches command the players who are out will switch with the GK's. • Teams can score on any of the three goals • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls for a switch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play with 2 goals if 4 players on a team or alternate between 2 goals and 3 goals if 5 players • Emphasize quick shooting • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Finishing – Session 2

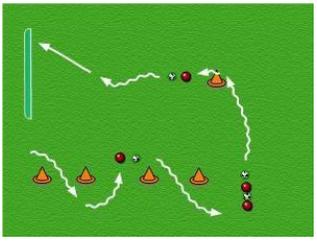
Session Objective: PWBAT shoot on target with confidence

Key Points:

- 1 Be comfortable, don't force the shot
- 2 Vary shooting surface
- 3 Accuracy over power

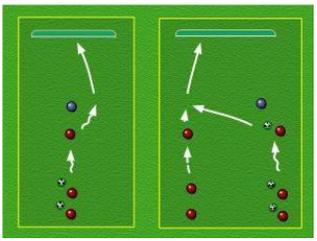
General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • In pairs, players will pass and run around cone to receive ball back • Technique activity: 1 v 0, players dribble around cone to net unopposed and shoot at goal • Players collect ball and dribble back through goals to end of line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to dribble at pace with tight control

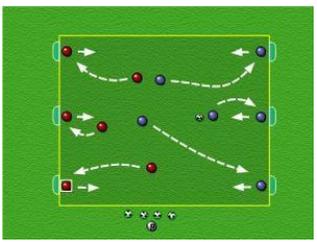
1 v 1 and 2 v 1 (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players play 1v1 to net. The attacker then turns to be a defender for the next attacker. • Play progresses to 2v1 • Attacker dribbles and shoots if they have space or passes if under pressure • Supporting player stays open to receive ball • Players rotate – attacker, defender, supporter, get ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the key points • Encourage attacker to judge when to shoot, pass or dribble • Encourage attacker to attack with speed • Encourage attackers to shoot early (i.e. when the ball sees the net)

Three Goal Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams of 4 to 6 players. 3 players will act as GK and 3 will play out. • On coaches command the players who are out will switch with the GK's. • Teams can score on any of the three goals • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls for a switch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play with 2 goals if 4 players on a team or alternate between 2 goals and 3 goals if 5 players • Emphasize quick and accurate shooting • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down



Player Development Model

U8 Practice Plan



Session Theme: Finishing – Session 3

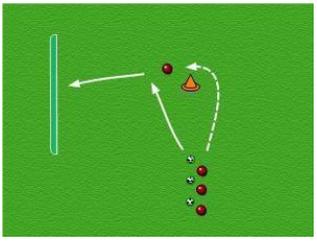
Session Objective: PWBAT shoot on target with confidence

Key Points:

- 1 Be comfortable, don't force the shot
- 2 Vary shooting surface
- 3 Accuracy over power

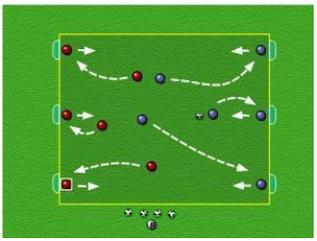
General Warm-up and 1 v 0 (20 minutes)

Warm-Up and Technique Practice

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 20yd area or ½ a gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players move around in a general warm as in previous week. • Players use various surfaces for change of direction, include toe taps, step over ... • Technique activity: 1 v 0, players run around cone and receive a pass from the next player in line. • Players attempt to score on a first time shot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforce key points • Encourage players to approach the ball in a way that will help them strike it on their first touch.

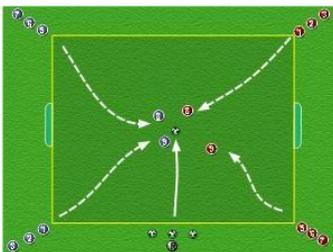
Three Goal Game (20 minutes)

Game Related Skill Activity

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams of 4 to 6 players. 3 players will act as GK and 3 will play out. • On coaches command the players who are out will switch with the GK's. • Teams can score on any of the three goals • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls for a switch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play with 2 goals if 4 players on a team or alternate between 2 goals and 3 goals if 5 players • Emphasize quick and accurate shooting • Let them play!

Numbers Game (20 minutes)

Small Sided Game

Activity Details	Player Tasks	Coaching Tasks
 <p>20yd x 30yd area or full gym</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players are split for two balanced teams, numbered off and given a corner. • The coach will send a ball in from the sideline and call out a number. The players with that number will then try to win the ball and score on the opponents' goal. • Play is continuous until a goal is scored, the ball is out of play or the coach calls a new number 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of practiced skills (bonus points) • Add fun elements if needed (i.e. holding hands) • Play 1v1, 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 • Emphasize 1 pass before scoring. • Emphasis on when to pass vs when to dribble • Let them play!

Jog and Stretch (2 minutes)

Cool Down